

Office of the President News Room

Editor's note: University of California President Richard C. Atkinson last Friday issued the following memo on the upcoming 9-11 anniversary.

Members of the UCOP Community,

The first anniversary of the Sept. 11 tragedy is approaching, and this date has acquired a special and solemn meaning across our nation and around the world. Many in the University of California community will be taking the opportunity of this anniversary to honor the heroes and victims of Sept. 11, to contemplate the events of the past year, and to look forward.

We share the sorrow for the lives that were lost one year ago, including members of our own UC family. While Sept. 11 signifies different things to different people, for me, it will always be a reminder of the fragility of human life and of the constant need for citizens of the global community to find ways of understanding each other and living together peacefully.

As a research university, we have a special role to play in the post-Sept. 11 environment. We are engaged in a search for knowledge that leads to an improved understanding of our world and the betterment of the human condition. We can take great pride in the contributions our faculty, students, staff, and alumni are making in the areas of international relations, cross-cultural understanding, anti-terrorism, infrastructure protection, disaster response, and nuclear security, among many others.

While University business will continue on Sept. 11, I encourage you to participate in the commemorative activities occurring in our local communities that day. Commemorative ceremonies have been scheduled at both the Franklin and Kaiser buildings for Office of the President employees. More information about these events will be sent to you Monday morning (Sept. 9), and I hope you will be able to attend.

Fiat Lux,

Richard C. Atkinson
President